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[49 FR 12974, Mar. 30, 1984, as amended at 54 FR 25069, June 12, 1989 and 55 FR 25525, June 21, 1990]

27.306 Licensing background patent rights to third parties.

(a) A contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization will not contain a provision allowing the Government to require the licensing to third parties of inventions owned by the contractor that are not subject inventions unless such provision has been approved by the agency head and written justification has been signed by the agency head. Any such provision will clearly state whether the licensing may be required in connection with the practice of a subject invention, a specifically identified work object, or both. The agency head may not delegate the authority to approve such provisions or to sign justifications required for such provisions.

(b) The Government will not require the licensing of third parties under any such provision unless the agency head determines that the use of the invention by others is necessary for the practice of a subject invention or for the use of a work object of the contract and that such action is necessary to achieve the practical application of the subject invention or work object. Any such determination will be on the record after an opportunity for a hearing, and the contractor shall be given notification of the determination by certified or registered mail. The notification shall include a statement that any action commenced for judicial review of such determination must be brought by the contractor within 60 days after the notification.

Subpart 27.4—Rights in Data and Copyrights

SOURCE: 52 FR 18140, May 13, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

27.400 Scope of subpart.

(a) The policy statement in 27.402 applies to all executive agencies. The remainder of the subpart sets forth civilian agency and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) policies, procedures, and instructions with respect to (1) rights in data and copyrights and (2) acquisition of data. However, these policies, procedures, and instructions are not required to be applicable to NASA solicitations until December 31, 1987 (or until such other date as the NASA FAR Supplement is revised to accommodate the policies, procedures, and instructions contained in this subpart). Due to the special mission needs of the Department of Defense (DOD) and as required by 10 U.S.C. 2320, the remainder of the DOD policies, procedures, and instructions with respect to rights in data and copyrights and acquisition of data are contained in the DOD FAR Supplement (DFARS).

(b) Civilian agencies other than NASA shall implement section 203 of Public Law 98-577 pertaining to validation of proprietary data restrictions.

[52 FR 18140, May 13, 1987, as amended at 54 FR 34755, Aug. 21, 1989]

27.401 Definitions.

Computer software, as used in this subpart, means computer programs, computer data bases, and documentation thereof.

Data, as used in this subpart, means recorded information, regardless of form or the media on which it may be recorded. The term includes technical data and computer software. The term does not include information incidental to contract administration, such as financial, administrative, cost or pricing or management information.

Form, fit, and function data, as used in this subpart, means data relating to items, components, processes that are sufficient to enable physical and functional interchangeability, as well as